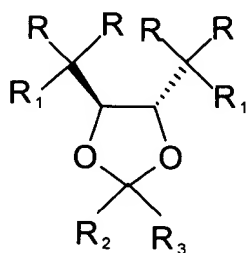


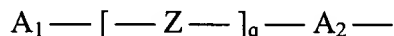
**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

18. (Currently Amended) An optically active compound of the formula:

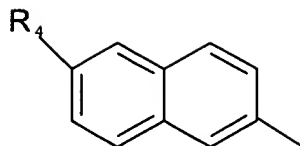


where the R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> groups are ~~a methyl, another~~ lower alkyl group or an aryl or biaryl unit while the R<sub>1</sub> groups independently each are a hydroxyl, alkoxyl, aryloxy, or arylalkoxy group, the R groups each represent a group as follows:

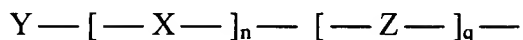


where A<sub>1</sub> is an aromatic group, an acyclic aliphatic group, or an alicyclic group, and A<sub>1</sub> can be a substituted or unsubstituted ~~group~~, Z is a group selected from -O-, -OCO-, or -S-, and the coefficient q is 0 or 1; ~~or Z may also be~~ is (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>O where the coefficient n is 0 to 5 and the coefficient q is 1; ~~and~~ and A<sub>2</sub> is a bivalent radical of a naphthalene group, and the cyclic structure of A<sub>2</sub>, or A<sub>1</sub> if it is cyclic, ~~optionally~~ can be heterocyclic, ~~such as by replacement of one or more CH member(s) of the ring structure with N, O and/or S.~~

19. (Currently Amended) The optically active compound of claim 18, where each R substituent is independently selected as:



where  $R_4$  represents a group as follows:

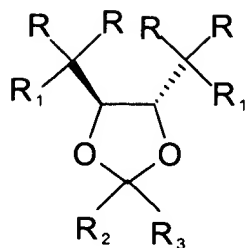


where  $n$  is an integer value of  $\geq 0$  ~~or 1 or more~~,  $X$  is  $-CH=CH-CH_2-$ , or  $-(CH_2)_m-$  where  $m$  is an integer value of  $\geq 1, 2, 3,$  ~~or more~~,  $Y$  is a radical of an aromatic hydrocarbon, an acyclic aliphatic hydrocarbon, or an alicyclic hydrocarbon, and  $Y$  can be a substituted or unsubstituted group, and  $Z$  and  $q$  have the same respective meanings as defined in claim 18.

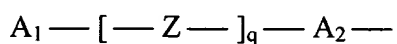
20. (Original) The optically active compound of claim 19, where  $R_4$  is an aryloxy radical, an arylalkoxy radical, an arylalkyleneoxy, or an arylalkenyleneoxy radical.

21. (Original) (4R, 5R)-2,2-dimethyl- $\alpha, \alpha, \alpha', \alpha'$ -tetrakis[6-(benzyloxy)naphth-2-yl]-1,3-dioxolane-4,5-dimethanol.

22. (Currently Amended) A liquid crystalline mixture, comprising:  
a liquid-crystalline base having liquid crystalline properties;  
at least one optically active compound of the formula:

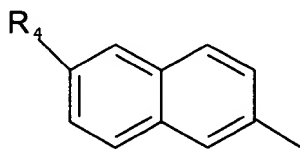


where the  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  groups are methyl, another lower alkyl group or an aryl or biaryl unit while the  $R_1$  groups independently each are a hydroxyl, alkoxyl, aryloxy, or arylalkoxy group, the  $R$  groups each represent a group as follows:

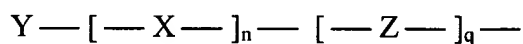


where  $A_1$  is an aromatic group, an acyclic aliphatic group, or an alicyclic group, and  $A_1$  can be a substituted or unsubstituted group,  $Z$  is a group selected from  $-O-$ ,  $-OCO-$ , or  $-S-$ , and the coefficient  $q$  is 0 or 1.  ~~$Z$  may also be or  $Z$  is  $(CH_2)_nO$  where the~~ coefficient  $n$  is 0 to 5 and the coefficient  $q$  is 1: and  $A_2$  is a bivalent radical of a naphthalene group, and the cyclic structure of  $A_2$ , or  $A_1$  if it is cyclic, ~~optionally~~ can be heterocyclic, ~~such as by replacement of one or more CH member(s) of the ring structure with N, O and/or S.~~

23. (Currently Amended) The liquid crystalline mixture of claim 22, where each  $R$  substituent is independently selected as:



where  $R_4$  represents a group as follows:



where n is an integer value of  $\geq 0$  ~~or 1 or more~~, X is  $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-\text{CH}_2$ , or  $-(\text{CH}_2)_m-$  where m is an integer value of  $\geq 1, 2, 3$ , ~~or more~~, Y is a radical of an aromatic hydrocarbon, an acyclic aliphatic hydrocarbon, or an alicyclic hydrocarbon, and Y can be a substituted or unsubstituted group, ~~and Z and q have the same respective meanings as defined in claim 18.~~

24. (Original) The liquid crystalline mixture of claim 23, where  $\text{R}_4$  is an aryloxy radical, an arylalkoxy radical, an arylalkyleneoxy, or an arylalkenyleneoxy radical.

25. (Currently Amended) The liquid crystalline mixture ~~according to~~ of claim 22, further including an achiral non-liquid crystalline compound.

26. (Currently Amended) The liquid crystalline mixture ~~according to~~ of claim 25, wherein the achiral non-liquid crystalline compound comprises  $\text{R}^1-\text{C}\equiv\text{N}$ , where  $\text{R}^1$  represents an aliphatic group.

27. (Currently Amended) The liquid crystalline mixture ~~according to~~ of claim 26, wherein  $\text{R}^1-\text{C}\equiv\text{N}$  ~~comprises~~ represents an alkylnitrile.

28. (Currently Amended) The liquid crystalline mixture ~~according to~~ of claim 26, wherein  $\text{R}^1-\text{C}\equiv\text{N}$  ~~comprises~~ represents undecanenitrile.

29. (Original) A liquid crystalline mixture, comprising:

a liquid-crystalline base having liquid crystalline properties;  
at least one optically active compound of the formula (4R, 5R)-2,2-dimethyl- $\alpha,\alpha,\alpha',\alpha'$ -tetrakis[6-(benzyloxy)naphth-2-yl]-1,3-dioxolane-4,5-dimethanol.

30. (Currently Amended) The liquid crystalline mixture ~~according to~~ of claim 29, further including an achiral non-liquid crystalline compound.

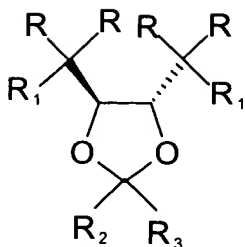
31. (Currently Amended) The liquid crystalline mixture ~~according to~~ of claim 30, wherein the achiral non-liquid crystalline compound comprises  $R^1-C\equiv N$ , where  $R^1$  represents an aliphatic group.

32. (Currently Amended) The liquid crystalline mixture ~~according to~~ of claim 31, wherein  $R^1-C\equiv N$  ~~comprises~~ represents an alkylnitrile.

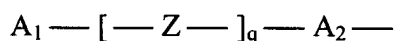
33. (Currently Amended) The liquid crystalline mixture ~~according to~~ of claim 31, wherein  $R^1-C\equiv N$  ~~comprises~~ represents undecanenitrile.

34. (Currently Amended) An electro-optical cell comprising a layer including a liquid crystalline mixture sandwiched between two substrate means, and means for applying an electric potential to the substrate means, wherein the liquid crystalline mixture comprises:

a liquid-crystalline base having liquid crystalline properties;  
at least one optically active compound of the formula:



where the  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  groups are ~~a methyl, another~~ lower alkyl group or an aryl or biaryl unit while the  $R_1$  groups independently each are a hydroxyl, alkoxyl, aryloxy, or arylalkoxy group, the  $R$  groups each represent a group as follows:



where  $A_1$  is an aromatic group, an acyclic aliphatic group, or an alicyclic group, and  $A_1$  can be ~~a substituted or unsubstituted group~~,  $Z$  is a group selected from  $-O-$ ,  $-OCO-$ , or  $-S-$ , and the coefficient  $q$  is 0 or 1, ~~or  $Z$  is  $Z$  may also be  $(CH_2)_nO$  where the coefficient  $n$  is 0 to 5 and the coefficient  $q$  is 1, and~~  $A_2$  is a bivalent radical of a naphthalene group, and the cyclic structure of  $A_2$ , or  $A_1$  if it is cyclic, ~~optionally can be heterocyclic, such as by replacement of one or more CH member(s) of the ring structure with N, O and/or S.~~

35. (Currently Amended) A light modulating apparatus comprising ~~an said~~ electro-optical cell ~~according to~~ of claim 34.

36. (Currently Amended) The light modulating apparatus ~~according to~~ of claim 35, wherein the light modulating apparatus comprises a cholesteric display.

37. (Original) A electro-optical cell comprising a layer including a liquid crystalline mixture sandwiched between two substrate means, and means for applying an electric potential to the substrate means, wherein the liquid crystalline mixture, comprises:

a liquid-crystalline base having liquid crystalline properties;  
at least one optically active compound of the formula (4R, 5R)-2,2-dimethyl- $\alpha,\alpha,\alpha',\alpha'$ -tetrakis[6-(benzyloxy)naphth-2-yl]-1,3-dioxolane-4,5-dimethanol.

38. (Currently Amended) A light modulating apparatus comprising ~~an~~ said electro-optical cell ~~according to~~ of claim 37.

39. (Original) The light modulating apparatus according to claim 38, wherein the light modulating apparatus comprises a cholesteric display.

40. (Original) An electro-optical cell comprising:  
a layer comprising:  
at least 70 weight percent (wt%) nematic host mixture; and  
at least about 2 wt% (4R, 5R)-2,2-dimethyl- $\alpha,\alpha,\alpha',\alpha'$ -tetrakis[6-(benzyloxy)naphth-2-yl]-1,3-dioxolane-4,5-dimethanol;  
first and second substrates disposed above and below, respectively, the layer; and  
first and second conductors physically coupled to the first and second substrates, respectively, which permit an electrical potential to be applied across the layer.

41. (Currently Amended) The electro-optical cell ~~as recited in~~ of claim 40, wherein the layer further comprises about 2-6 wt% achiral material.

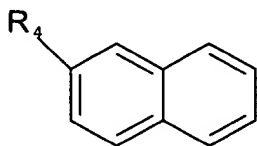
42. (Currently Amended) The electro-optical cell ~~as recited in~~ of claim 40, wherein the layer further comprises a chiral material different from (4R, 5R)-2,2-dimethyl- $\alpha,\alpha,\alpha',\alpha'$ -tetrakis[6-(benzyloxy)naphth-2-yl]-1,3-dioxolane-4,5-dimethanol and having an opposite twist sense.

43. (Currently Amended) A light modulating apparatus comprising ~~an~~ said electro-optical cell ~~according to claims~~ of claim 40.

44. (Currently Amended) The light modulating apparatus ~~according to~~ of claim 43, wherein the light-modulating apparatus comprises a cholesteric display having a temperature independent reflective wavelength.

Please add the following claims:

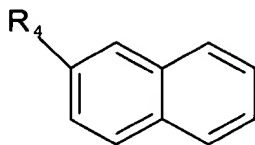
45. (New) The optically active compound of claim 18, where each R substituent is independently selected as:



where R<sub>4</sub> is an aryloxy radical, an arylalkoxy radical, an arylalkyleneoxy, or an arylalkenyleneoxy radical.

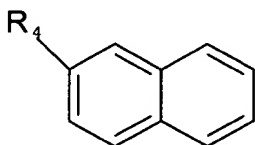


46. (New) The liquid crystalline mixture of claim 22, where each R substituent is independently selected as:



where R<sub>4</sub> is an aryloxy radical, an arylalkoxy radical, an arylalkyleneoxy, or an arylalkenyleneoxy radical.

47. (New) The electro-optical cell of claim 34, where each R substituent is independently selected as:



where R<sub>4</sub> is an aryloxy radical, an arylalkoxy radical, an arylalkyleneoxy, or an arylalkenyleneoxy radical.